

Some things a baby with normal speech, language, and hearing should be able to do.

Birth to 3 Months

- Blinks or jumps when there is a sudden loud sound
- Quiets or smiles when spoken to
- Makes sounds like “ohh” and “ahh”

4 to 6 Months

- Looks for sounds with eyes
- Uses many sounds, squeals, and chuckles
- Makes different sounds when excited or angry

7 Months to 1 Year

- Turns head toward loud sounds
- Understands “no-no” or “bye-bye”
- Babbles, for example “baba,” “mamma,” “gaga”
- Repeats simple words and sounds you make
- Correctly uses “mama” or “dada”
- Responds to singing or music
- Points to favorite toys and objects when asked

If you have questions about your baby's hearing or this list, talk with your baby's doctor.

Information in this brochure is provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Washington State Department of Health.

Where can I get more information?

Call the Washington State Department of Health at 206-418-5613, or visit us online: www.doh.wa.gov/earlyhearingloss

Your baby's hearing test results

Your Baby's Name

Date and Time

Birthing Facility

Tester's Name

Right Ear: ☐ PASS
☐ REFER

Left Ear: ☐ PASS
☐ REFER

If your baby did not pass the hearing test, the appointment below has been made for your baby's next hearing test.

Date and Time

Place

Phone Number

Please call if you need to reschedule.



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For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 711).

Can Your Baby Hear?

Your Baby's First Hearing Test





Why should my baby's hearing be tested?

- Most babies can hear well at birth, but a few do not.
- All babies are tested to make sure they are hearing normally.
- It is important to find hearing loss as soon as possible. If hearing loss is found early, it is easier for babies to learn.
- There are many ways to help your baby right away if hearing loss is found.

Make sure your baby's hearing is tested before you leave the hospital.



What should I know about newborn hearing testing?

- The test is safe, painless and can be done in about 10–20 minutes.
- Most babies sleep through the test.
- An infant with a hearing loss may cry or appear to respond to sounds just like babies with normal hearing. Only a hearing test can tell you if your baby has a hearing loss.



Why do some babies not pass the hearing test?

- Some babies may need another test because:
 - Fluid in the ear
 - Noise in the test room
 - Baby was moving a lot
 - Baby has hearing loss
- Most babies who need another test have normal hearing. Some will have hearing loss.

If your baby does not pass the hearing test, make sure he or she is tested again as soon as possible.



Can a newborn baby pass the hearing test and still have a hearing loss?

- Yes, some babies hear well enough to pass the first test, but lose their hearing later because of:
 - Some illnesses
 - Some medicines
 - Some injuries
 - A family history of hearing loss
- Watch for signs of hearing loss as your baby grows.
- Use the list on the back cover as a guide.

